

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1140

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 7172

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, VT, LY, XF

SUBJECT: JALLOUD AUDIENCE WITH POPE PAUL

REF: ROME 2852, FEB. 28, 1974 (NOTAL)

LIBYAN PRIME MINISTER JALLOUD HAD HIS SECOND PAPAL AUDIENCE IN A LITTLE OVER ONE YEAR ON APRIL 30. ACCORDING TO RELIABLE VATICAN SOURCE, LITTLE OF SUBSTANCE CONCERNING INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS WAS COVERED BEYOND BRIEF REPETITION BY JALLOUD OF LIBYAN POSITION ON JERUSALEM AND HOLY PLACES WHICH FOLLOWED CLOSELY WHAT HE HAD TOLD POPE FEB. 1974 (REFTEL). IN ADDITION TO GAINING ADDITIONAL INTERNATIONAL EXPOSURE, JALLOUD'S MAIN PURPOSE SEEMED TO BE TO REQUEST THE POPE TO SEND 30 NURSING NUNS TO WORK IN LIBYAN HOSPITALS, AS WELL AS TO TRAIN LIBYAN NURSES. POPE PROMISED JALLOUD TO DO HIS BEST TO COMPLY, BUT POINTED OUT THAT IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO ADMIT ALSO SEVERAL PRIESTS TO ATTEND THE SPIRITUAL NEEDS OF THESE NUNS. JALLOUD DID NOT RAISE WITH VATICAN QUESTION OF MOSQUE TO BE BUILD IN ROME AS HE HAD BEEN RUMORED HERE. JALLOUD MADE FLATTERING REFERENCES

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TO POPE AS MORAL AND SPIRITUAL LEADER OF THE WORLD, WITHOUT WHOSE

INTERVENTION IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO ACHIEVE SATISFACTORY SOLUTION
TO PROBLEMS OF JERUSALEM, HOLY PLACES AND PALESTINIANS. VOLPE

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